

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 490

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Tommy C. Stiner of LaFollette.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Tommy C. Stiner; and

WHEREAS, Tommy Stiner was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stiner obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from East Tennessee State University and a master's degree in political science from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and he was a member of Phi Kappa Alpha fraternity; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished Vietnam War veteran, Mr. Stiner answered his nation's call to duty as a member of the United States Army and served two tours of duty as a helicopter pilot, saving many lives while endangering his own; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, after twenty-nine years of selfless service to his country, Colonel Tommy Stiner retired as the most highly decorated veteran from the State of Tennessee with numerous commendations, including the Silver Star, Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star with five Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal with Valor Device and twenty-seven Oak Leaf Clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, and numerous individual and foreign awards; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement from the military, Mr. Stiner and his family returned to Campbell County, where he initially pursued farming before embarking upon a political career as the Campbell County Executive in 1992; he was elected three times and ably served for ten years until 2002; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Stiner's astute leadership, Campbell County built a health department, a recycling center, a career center, an elementary school, two middle schools, and one high school and established a community college campus. Mr. Stiner supervised the construction of an industrial park, new roads, bridges, and 133 miles of new water lines for citizens who were without water; in addition, he personally recruited numerous new industry partners and significantly strengthened the tourism industry within Campbell County; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from political office, Tommy Stiner continued to serve his community in numerous capacities. He was chairman of the Local Government Planning Advisory Committee for the State of Tennessee, director and chairman of the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency and the Mountain Valley Economic Authority, director of the Campbell County Chamber of Commerce and Community Health of East Tennessee, president of the South Campbell County Rotary Club, and a member of the board of directors at First Volunteer Bank and numerous East Tennessee economic and community development agencies; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stiner was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Emit and Hassie Stiner; his brother, Glen Stiner; and his sister, Jo Ann Sharp; and

WHEREAS, Tommy Stiner is survived by his loving wife of fifty-four years, Judy Stiner; his son, Mark (Alyssa) Stiner; his grandchildren, Nicole Stiner and Sean Stiner; his brothers, Carl Wade (Sue) Stiner and Emory (Caroline) Stiner; his sister-in-law, Marjorie (Jim) Shrader; his nieces, Carla Reel, Tommi Allen, Laurie Lancaster, and Shannon James; his nephew, Derrick Stiner; and a host of relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stiner leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Tommy C. Stiner, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Stiner.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.